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HOUSE BILL 1741

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State of Washington                      57th Legislature                      2001 Regular Session

By Representatives Hunt, Fromhold, Alexander and Armstrong

Read first time 02/02/2001. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1            AN ACT Relating to health care benefits for blind vendors; amending  
2 RCW 74.18.230; and adding a new section to chapter 41.05 RCW.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 41.05 RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6            (1) The board shall offer a plan of health insurance to blind  
7 licensees who are actively operating facilities and participating in  
8 the business enterprises program established in RCW 74.18.200 through  
9 74.18.230, and maintained by the department of services for the blind.  
10 The plan of health insurance benefits must be the same or substantially  
11 similar to the plan of health insurance benefits offered to state  
12 employees under this chapter.

13            (2) All costs incurred by the state or the board for providing  
14 health insurance coverage to active blind vendors, excluding family  
15 participation, under subsection (1) of this section may be paid for  
16 from net proceeds from vending machine operations in public buildings  
17 under RCW 74.18.230.

18            (3) Money from the business enterprises program under the federal  
19 Randolph-Sheppard Act may not be used for family participation in the

1 health insurance benefits provided under this section. Family  
2 insurance benefits are the sole responsibility of the individual blind  
3 vendors.

4 **Sec. 2.** RCW 74.18.230 and 1993 c 369 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 (1) There is established in the state treasury an account known as  
7 the business enterprises revolving account.

8 (2) The net proceeds from any vending machine operation in a public  
9 building, other than an operation managed by a licensee, shall be made  
10 payable to the business enterprises (~~revolving fund~~) program, which  
11 will pay only the blind vendors' portion, at the subscriber's rate, for  
12 the purpose of funding a plan of health insurance for blind vendors, as  
13 provided in section 1 of this act. Net proceeds, for purposes of this  
14 section, means the gross amount received less the costs of the  
15 operation, including a fair minimum return to the vending machine  
16 owner, which return shall not exceed a reasonable amount to be  
17 determined by the department.

18 (3) All federal moneys in the business enterprises revolving  
19 account shall be expended only for development and expansion of  
20 locations, equipment, management services, and payments to licensees in  
21 the business enterprises program.

22 (4) The business enterprises program shall be supported by the  
23 business enterprises revolving account and by income which may accrue  
24 to the department pursuant to the federal Randolph-Sheppard Act.

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